

1486

Dias rounded Cape of  
Good Hope.

1486

Columbus approached the Spanish Crown for support to finance a voyage - a western route to the East.

1486

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Columbus met King Ferdinand  
and Queen Isabella of Spain.  
for the 1st time

1486

Bartholomew Diaz rounds  
Cape of Good Hope  
Frederick III procures election of  
his son Maximilian as king  
of the Romans

1486

Duncan; Cal

Portuguese sailors found  
Angola.

1486

## SPANISH INQUISITION

Torquemada, appointed Grand Inquisitor in 1486, attempted to make the Inquisition effective and, while working under the commonly accepted criminal code and procedure of his day, introduced the law of 1492 whereby the Jews were given a choice of becoming Christians or exiles. This caused great hardships to the Jews and led to open

persecution and widespread abuses. It worked to the detriment of Spain and, while the number of its victims has been exaggerated historically, the Inquisition was a ruthless tool of both zealots and political self-seekers. It continued, with vastly changed and controlled procedures, in Spain until the early 19th century.